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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Joachim GRABSCHEID et al.

Group Art Unit: 1731

Serial No : 10/032,090

Examiner: E. Hug

Filed : December 31, 2001

For : PROCESS FOR CONDITIONING A CIRCULATING FELT BELT

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450,
Alexandria, Virginia 23313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration during the examination of the instant application:

Applicant submits herewith a copy of the European Search Report (in German) dated July 11, 2003 conducted in European Patent Application No. 01 12 5586, which is a counterpart of the instant application. In particular the European Examiner cited:

(1) US 3,859,163 is cited as an "X" category document (i.e., a document indicating lack of novelty). In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document was relevant to claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 15-18 and 20 of the European Application. This document is also cited as an "A" category document (i.e., a document indicating the general state of the

P21634.A04

art). In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document was relevant to claims 4 and 11 of the European Application;

(2) US 6,143,092 is cited as an “D,X” category document and as an “A” category document. As a “X” document, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document was relevant to claims 1, 3, 5, 8-10 and 12-18 of the European Application. As a “A” document, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document was relevant to claims 2, 7 and 21 of the European Application;

(3) US 5,595,632 is cited as an “A” category document. In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document was relevant to claims 1, 4, 8 and 11 of the European Application;

(4) DE 43 05 493 is cited as an “A” category document. In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document was relevant to claims 6, 7, 20 and 21 of the European Application; and

(5) US 5,964,956 is cited in the Annex as a family member document of US 6,143,092.

Copies of documents (2), (4) and (5) (as well as a copy of the European Search Report) are enclosed as is a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing all of these documents. However, copies of documents (1) and (3) are not being provided because document (1) was previously cited by Applicant in the IDS filed April 1, 2002, and because

P21634.A04

document (3) was cited by the Examiner in an attached PTO-892 issued with the April 4, 2003 Office Action. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider documents 2, 4 and 5 and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

Applicant, in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97 (e), certifies that each item (i.e., items (2), (4) and (5)) of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.


Applicant notes that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a First office action on the merits pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c). However, consideration of the enclosed document is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) because Applicant has herein provided the required certification under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) and the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

P21634.A04

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Joachim GRABSCHEID et al.


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July 23, 2003
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•Form PTO-1449

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BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)Applicant
Joachim GRABSCHEID et al.Filing Date
December 31, 2001Group
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6 1 4 3 0 9 2	11/07/00	STRAUB et al.			
	5 9 6 4 9 5 6	10/12/99	STRAUB et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
4 3 0 5 4 9 3	08/25/94	GERMANY			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

1	European Search Report (in German) dated July 11, 2003 conducted in European Patent Application
	No. 01 12 5586.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.